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MEMOIRS  
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VI.

*A Vocabulary of the Soahili Language, on the Eastern Coast of  
Africa ; by Samuel K. Masury.*

*Communicated by Charles Pickering, M. D.*

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THE following Vocabulary was obtained by Dr. Charles Pickering, during his stay at Zanzibar, in 1844. It was collected with care by an intelligent gentleman of Salem, Massachusetts, who had resided for some time in Zanzibar ; and it is so difficult to procure authentic specimens of languages from the less frequented quarters of the globe, that it appeared desirable to preserve this in the Memoirs of the Academy. The following short note of Dr. Pickering will give all the necessary information respecting it.

JOHN PICKERING.

*Boston, July, 1845.*

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*To JOHN PICKERING, President of the American Academy of Arts  
and Sciences.*

SIR : — The accompanying Vocabulary was obtained by Mr. Masury, of Salem, Massachusetts, from a native of the Comoro Islands, who had resided several years at Zanzibar. The *Soahili* language,

besides being vernacular at the last named place, is the language of commerce on the eastern coast of Africa, like the Malay among the East India Islands. The native above mentioned stated, that it is different from either of the tongues indigenous to his own country.

C. P.

*Boston, July, 1845.*

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*Vocabulary of the Soahili Language.*

Lao, to-day.	Thalatha, three.
Cassio, to-morrow.	Aroba, four.
Cassio cuto, day after to-morrow.	Cumsa, five.
Mise,* month.	Seita, six.
Marka, year.	Sebah, seven.
Secoo, day.	Themania, eight.
Gama, good.	Tissa, nine.
Acouna gama, no good, bad.	Asher, ten.
Vouta, pull.	Hedasher, eleven.
Nenda, go.	Thenasha, twelve.
Nouse [noos], half.	Thalatasha, thirteen.
Aroba, quarter.	Arobasha, fourteen.
Real, dollar.	Cunstasher, fifteen.
Cas robo real, three quarters of a dollar.	Setasher, sixteen.
Thumoney, twelve and a half cents.	Sabatasher, seventeen.
Nouse thumoney, six and a quarter cents.	Themaniatasher, eighteen.
Bettle, pound.	Tissatasher, nineteen.
Lette, bring.	Asharen, twenty.
Anjo, come.	Thalathen, thirty.
Zeasevacu, yams.	Aroben, forty.
Dese, bananas.	Cumseen, fifty.
Machungo, orange.	Seiteen, sixty.
Nanas, pine-apples.	Sebeen, seventy.
Desem beche, green plantain.	Themaneen, eighty.
Desem befou, ripe plantain.	Tissen, ninety.
Pemba, ivory.	Meā, one hundred.
Wahed,† one.	Alfe, one thousand.
Theneen, two.	Mopā, white.
	Māzungo, white man.
	Pemā, weigh.
	Hāme, cotton [unbleached].

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\* *Qu. Portuguese, mese?* — EDIT.

† These numerals are from the Arabic.

Bondook, musket.	Doana, hook.
Chirsas, lead.	Gopā, afraid.
Kesu, knife.	Way-yā, you.
Opangā, sword.	Mattooma, slave.
Kete, chair.	Daga, bird.
Nenā tā kā, what do you want ?	Ouliā, England.
Mechalā, rice.	Americano, American.
Marge, water.	Hāpā, here.
Māpoongā, paddy.	Kudthen, apart.
Matamā, corn.	Meshāharā, wages, <i>or</i> pay.
Mohinde, Indian corn.	Karamoo, feast.
Nazee, cocoa-nut.	Pāne, lightning.
Mādafou, green cocoa-nut.	Tookānā, blackguardism, <i>or</i> swearing.
Māfoutā, oil.	Goom bāna, not friends.
Māfoutā oto, Simsim oil.	Lenā, where.
Waku, keep.	Sā fe re, going to sea.
Nā yew-ā, I know that.	Marrā en gāpe, how many times.
Pata, ring.	En gāpe, how many.
Casca-se, northeast monsoon.	Mahala gana, what place.
Co-se, southwest monsoon.	Mala, merchandise.
Papo, wind.	Lahabu, gold.
Motto, fire.	Feather, silver.
Coo-ne, wood.	Chābā, brass.
Gooza, hide.	Poo-ā, steel.
Sā, clock.	Chuma, iron.
Coo-ko, chicken.	Me-te, tree.
Maze, moon.	Pouma-le, yards [of a ship].
Juā, sun.	Negota, mast [of a ship].
Kepanda, quadrant.	Mabing-oo, cloud.
Soca-re, wheel for ships.	Nayota, star.
Cambā, rope.	Qua ka, at his house.
Deva, compass for ships.	Tanga, sail.
Dorbeen, spy-glass.	Mācaboo, vessel.
Keo, looking-glass.	Mo-she, smoke.
Dārushā, window.	Roodeza, return.
Foongoā, open.	Wa than egā, what do you think of it.
Melango, door.	Ouwāwā, fine.
Numba, house.	Oochomgoo, bitter.
Frass, horse.	Tam-oo, sweet.
Cadogā, small.	Cāseā, owe.
Bāhāre, sea.	Mahareba, sundown.
Booza, goat.	A la se-re, about four o'clock [in the morning at cock-crowing].
Cutoonga, onions.	Mechana, noon.
Boone, coffee.	Hā nā, he has not any.
Māsepe, line.	

Boudā, old man.  
 Keza, dark.  
 Negoomoo, hard.  
 Māpeā, new.  
 Alāmā, number.  
 Mavoole, umbrella.  
 Ooma que ba, you stole it.  
 Hapananitoo, nobody.  
 Coopatare, last.  
 Toon goosha, turn it round.  
 See meka, stand it up.  
 Sama-ke, fish.  
 Me me ra, pour it out.  
 Se ma gee, don't spill it.  
 E-majar, full.  
 Neja, outside.  
 He-itosha, enough.  
 Tan gooka, it will fall.  
 Gwabere-ke, thank you.  
 Feneka, cover.  
 Ga-le, dear.  
 Taka, duty.  
 Zema, put out.  
 Cartar\* se, paper.  
 Cālāmo, pen.  
 Kondeker, write.  
 Winnu, ink.  
 Zeātoo,† shoes.  
 Māungo, back.  
 Ouso, forehead.  
 Māchābou, cheek.  
 Zedola zumgo, toes.  
 Naye, foot.  
 Segegu, heel.  
 Segeno, ancle.  
 Chaff, calf.  
 Padyā, thigh.  
 Coffee, palm of hand.  
 Conda, hand.  
 Mākoochā, finger-nail.  
 Zedola, finger.  
 Kewoongo, wrist.

Cā-pwā, arm-pit.  
 Kefrua, breast.  
 Maga, leg.  
 Beggā, shoulder.  
 Segero, elbow.  
 Mercono, arm.  
 Go-at, knee.  
 Tumbo, belly.  
 Davu, beard.  
 King-wa, jaw.  
 Oulemā, tongue.  
 Cādavu, chin.  
 Domo, mouth.  
 Mano, teeth.  
 Noush, eyebrow.  
 Oucopawādu, eyelash.  
 Macho, eye.  
 Pouā, nose.  
 Muskeo, ear.  
 Kechor, head.  
 Sofera, pot.  
 Chooroona, missing.  
 Cooyou-a, drink.  
 Sān gārpy sarsa, what o'clock.  
 Cassa gā-ne, what price.  
 Coubā, large.  
 Wā-le, boiled rice.  
 Wemba, razor.  
 Dare-ne, up stairs.  
 Ramgā, paint.  
 Megā-me, grass.  
 Bon, board.  
 Neyou-ala, hair.  
 Mecā seā, ear.  
 Kouise, black.  
 Munjano, yellow.  
 Mecotanaze, green.  
 Pomgoosha, wipe.  
 Vevu, lazy.  
 Neja, outside.  
 Cutecate, mud.  
 Toneka, cover.  
 Choocooā, carry.  
 Coonja, double.  
 Nayola, shave.

\* *Portuguese*, carta. — EDIT.

† *Qu. Portuguese*, zapáto? — EDIT.

Tiare, ready.	Yaka, own.
Potaza, lost.	Quanga, before.
Poorooma, push.	Haba-re, news.
Popota, any time.	Duffta-re, book.
Rahese, cheap.	Sena, have not any.
Reesha, thin.	Newnew-a, buy.
Wa ka oo pan da roo, put it this side.	Cooza, sold.
Wa ka oo pan da wa pe la, put it that side.	Sheka, hold.
Wā kam ba la, keep separate.	Muesha, last.
Pala pala, the same place.	Cavoo, dry.
Ta fa tha le, if you please.	Maquetā, call.
Me me na, put it down.	Rupta, bale.
Whas a ta, light the lamp.	Hesaboo, figures.
Ye a to ra, where did it come from.	Bāre-de, cold.
Ye a nooka, smells bad.	Machora, tired.
High do roo, never mind.	La bou dā, I think so.
Coo me za, did it hurt ?	Se gu ā, I don't know.
Se ta ra, I don't want to.	Quālā, true.
Pa soo a, don't tear it.	Fida, profit
Coo na ne ne, what 's the matter ?	Sāfā, clean.
Wa cha ka ne ne, why do you laugh ?	Yaomu, ache.
Ha too fa-ne-be-a-cha-ra, we can't trade.	Mapeshe, cook.
Na rwe ta, he calls you.	Cosha, wash.
Wen da na nane, who are you going with ?	Kejana, boy.
Se pen da, I don't like it.	Hā-re, sweat.
Wa to ka whappy, where did you come from ?	Tuā, lower.
Na ne gin ā lā roo, what is your name ?	Twaka, hoist.
Ye a maza ma na no, stop that talk.	Yarrebo, try.
Nde vio, that is it.	Ma-un-go, God.
Goza, piece.	Shatan, devil.
Car-le, hot.	E-māmu, priest.
Nau our ba, I hope.	Vouā, rain.
Papata, lifted.	Godoro, bed.
Sahaboo, raisins.	Tabebe, doctor.
Ca na he, same as this.	Chuo-ne, school.
	Marlim, teacher.
	Car-the, judge.
	Papo-ne, heaven.
	Motto-ne, hell.

These words are written in English as they sound when pronounced by a native. [The *long* quantity over the vowel *ā* gives it the sound of *ah* in English ; and *ou* is to be pronounced like *oo*. — EDIT.]

SAMUEL K. MASURY.

November 8, 1844.